

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 14015 01 OF 02 120222Z

61/50

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-15

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 ABF-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 L-03 SAJ-01 DRC-01

/165 W

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R 101659Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9791

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 14015

NESCO

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - P A R A O N E

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, OCON

SUBJECT: ARREARAGES; THEIRS AND OURS

FOR DR. MOREY (IO) FROM MR. LIPPE AND MR. SULLIVAN

1. DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS TO UNESCO, MEETINGS OF GENEVA GROUP, AND SOUNDINGS AMONG AMERICANS IN THE SECRETARIAT SUGGEST TO US THAT THERE IS JUST ABOUT ZERO CHANCE FOR ANY U.S. INITIATIVE CALCULATED TO REDRESS THE SOVIET ARREARAGES ISSUE. WHILE ALL MEMBERS OF THE GENEVA GROUP, INCLUDING THE JAPANESE, HAVE EXPRESSED SYMPATHY WITH U.S. ON PRINCIPLE INVOLVED OUR HEARTS SIMPLY DO NOT BEAT AS ONE WHEN IT COMES TO ANY ACTION. NOT ONE COUNTRY ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM THEIR CAPITAL IS WILLING TO INTRODUCE OUR DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR EQUALIZING THE EFFECTS OF THE 17TH GC "FORGIVENESS" MUCH LESS SUPPORT SUCH A RESOLUTION SHOULD WE COME UP WITH SOMEONE WILLING TO SPONSOR IT. ARGENTINA HAS YET TO RESPOND TO THE PERMREP'S REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP AND FEELING IN USDEL  
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PAGE 02 PARIS 14015 01 OF 02 120222Z

IS THAT THIS IS, IN FACT, THE RESPONSE. OTHER DELEGA-

TIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN INFORMALLY SOUNDED OUT HAVE ALSO BEEN NEGATIVE.

2. EUROPEAN RELUCTANCE TO LEND US A HAND IS LARGELY BASED ON POLITICAL GROUNDS BUT ON PRACTICAL AS WELL. THESE COUNTRIES SEE THE ARREARAGES ISSUE, WITH ITS SPECIAL CAST OF CHARACTERS INVOLVED, AS PROBABLY PROVOKING A DIVISIVE, BLOODLETTING BATTLE AT THE 18TH GC WHICH WOULD JEOPARDIZE THEIR GENERAL EAST-WEST AND CHINA DETENTE POLICIES AND GIVEN THE POSTURE OF THE LDC'S NOT HAVE AN IOTA OF A CHANCE OF SUCCEEDING. THEY ALSO DO NOT RELISH THE PROSPECT OF A CONFRONTATION OF MAJOR DONORS AND CONTRIBUTORS. TO LOOK AT THIS REALISTICALLY, ALTHOUGH THE U.S. SITS AS A NATURAL ALLY WITH THE GENEVA GROUP COUNTRIES, THIS GROUP OF NINE HAS ITS OWN DIPLOMATIC OBJECTIVES AND VIEWS AND ORIENTATIONS WHICH WE DO NOT SHARE AND WHICH THEY SEE THREATENED BY GOING THE FULL ROUTE WITH US. SO FAR AS THE LDC'S ARE CONCERNED IT DOES NOT TAKE MUCH IMAGINATION TO SEE WHERE THEY WOULD STAND SHOULD THE ARREARAGES QUESTION COME BEFORE THE GC IN THE FORM WE HAVE CONCEIVED. THE POSSIBLE FUTURE SAVINGS IS ASSESSMENTS FOR THEM SEEMS LOST IN THE TIME SPAN INVOLVED AND IN THE UNCERTAINTIES OF CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS AND INFLATION. ALSO AS RECIPIENT COUNTRIES, THEIR INTEREST IS IN INCREASING UNESCO'S CAPACITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE, NOT IN CUTTING BACK ON AVAILABLE FUNDS.

3. WE RECOGNIZE THAT WE SHOULD NOT CAVE IN ON THE PRINCIPLE INVOLVED IN THIS CASE, BUT IN THE LIGHT OF PROSPECTS FOR SUCCESS WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE U.S. NOT BE FACED WITH THE PROSPECT OF A PROBABLE DEFEAT. FURTHERMORE PRESSING THIS ISSUE TO A DIVISIVE CONFRONTATION IN OCTOBER MAY CLOUD OUR EFFORTS IN THE GC TO NAIL DOWN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 25 PERCENT CEILING IN UNESCO AND WITH OUR EFFORTS TO ENTER THE EUROPEAN REGION. IF WE

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PAGE 01 PARIS 14015 02 OF 02 101717Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 14015

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ACT AGAINST THE STRONGLY EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS OF OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES, THOSE THAT ARE FOR OUR ENTRY INTO THE EUROPEAN REGION MIGHT FEEL LESS INCLINED TO VIGOROUSLY SUPPORT OUR EFFORT.

4. GIVEN THE ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE US NOT RPT NOT PRESS ARREARAGES ISSUE IN THE 18TH GC. THIS RECOMMENDATION IS SUPPORTED BY THE ENTIRE US PERMANENT DELEGATION TO UNESCO. DEPT MAY WISH TO EXPLORE OTHER MEANS OF ACCOMPLISHING SAME GOAL.

5. WITH REFERENCE TO OUR OWN (1973) ARREARAGES, UNLESS THE US DELAYED ASSESSMENT PAYMENT (\$4,181,300) IS RECEIVED BY THE END OF JUNE WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY THE SECRETARIAT THAT THE ORGANIZATION WILL HAVE TO RESORT TO EXPENSIVE SHORT TERM BORROWING. THIS WILL HAVE EFFECT ONLY OF IRRITATION OTHER MEMBER STATES, PARTICULARLY OUR LUKE-WARM ALLIES IN THE GENEVA GROUP WHO HAVE BEEN FRANKLY INFORMED OF THE REASON FOR OUR FAILURE TO PAY (THE INTEREST CHARGES WILL IN END RAISE THEIR ASSESSMENTS) AND HAVE NO RPT NO EFFECT WHATEVER (STATE 113916) ON THE SOVIET ARREARAGES QUESTION. WE HAVE TOLD THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 PARIS 14015 02 OF 02 101717Z

SECRETARIAT THE REASON BEHIND THE DELAY, BUT THIS WILL NOT EFFECT THE VOTING INSTRUCTIONS OF MEMBER STATES. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT WE PAY UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IRWIN

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